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THE
PLOTTER

COMPUTING THE FUTURE--
IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

EDITED BY: DICK WAGNER
CHAIRMAN: MICHAEL CARVER
V/CHAIRMAN: BILL DUNLOP
SECRETARY: JACK ARMSTRONG
TREASURER: ROD GOWEN
PR OFFICER: BOB EVANS
LIBRARIAN: JAMES EDWARDS

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MEETING

The APRIL meeting will be:

on: FRI., APRIL 8, 1988

meeting room open at: 7:30 P.M.
in: COMMUNITY ROOM
    FAR WEST FEDERAL S & L
    OREGON CITY SHOPPING CENTER

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WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS ISSUE
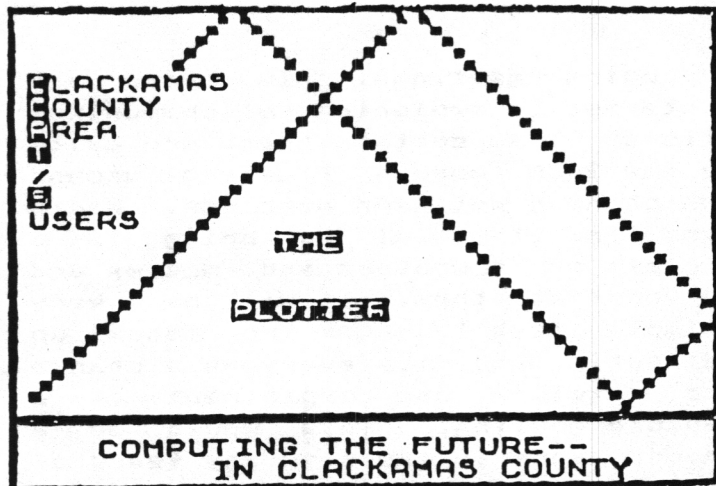
SOAP BOX

Well it seems that our swap meet was a success in more ways than one. First, we had a good turnout and everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Some people went home with less than they brought, while others ended up with less space in their cars when they left! The other success is more of a left-handed-success, in that most of us found that ALL of our Timex/Sinclair odds and ends where too dear to part with. Guess it just goes to show the staying power of our powerful "little" computers.

I recently found myself looking through some back issues of Byte magazine and ran across an interesting article on expanding the memory of a ZX-80 in a January 1982 issue. Here was an excited person. He only paid $199 for a computer with only 1K of memeory. Sinclair was just offering a 16K RAM ($100) and an 8K ROM with floating point math ($40)! My, oh, my -- where those the "Dark Ages"?

I would like to solicit ideas from the club members on what they would like to see happen at our
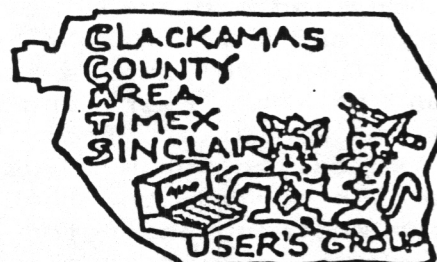
upcoming meetings. Is there any interest in exploring telecommunications? I am certain there are quite a few 2050 modems floating around which have not seen much use. Would you find it useful to bring in a couple of computers and modems and demonstrate them. It will be a very simple task to hook two modems up directly and give everyone a chance to explore and expirement at a future meeting. This would be a good chance to exorcise any fears of telecommunicating. As long as Rod still has his BBS up and running, we should be supporting it. There are also a number of local BBS's to be tapped into without incurring the expense of long-distance calls or access fees for CompuServe. . .

Hope to see you all at the next meeting with exciting ideas and questions!

Sinclairly -- Michael E. Carver

SECRETARY'S
SECRETS
by Jack Armstrong

Chairman Nike Carver started off the meeting at 8:00. The members had already been together since 7:00 eyeing each others goodies displayed for the Swapmeet. Under Old Business he called on Donald Malm, who gave a nice thank you to the members for their concern and sympathy over his wife's passing. He stated that he would be to subsequent meetings and the gathering gave him a round of applause for his touching statement. Rod gave a progress report on the arrangements for the Mini-Fair, including a report on the letters going out to user groups and vendors, a recap on the various speakers who will be there and a diagram of the floor layout and info on the hotel facilities. There followed a general discussion of the Fair and Tim reported on a letter from Nigel Searle. Mike called for New Business and D. Lewis reported on the swap meet at the Western Washington Fairgrounds at Puyallup. He gave a brief discourse on a new computer with a built-in word processor in Chinese! A general discussion followed which

involved S   and Merlin. D. now has his diploma from Columbia Cable. The next report came from Dick Wagner in reference to an humorous column from Dear Abby. Mike reported on the PATS who will meet at Syd's at 7 p.m. on the 25th. Bill commented on a new CD ROM with 50 Meg. Discussion followed. Tim reported on his Florida trip to the Fair there. He said it rained while there and gave an evaluation of the proceedings. Tim also read a copy of a letter he sent to Dennis Jurries. A suggestion was put forth that we, as individuals, contact our Founding Father and extend our wish to have him attend our meetings. He is missed. Mike suggested that we all should try to contact old members to encourage them to return to the fold. Ed Fry added other comments. Tim saw the Larken RAM-Disk in action and says: "Super!" There was furthur discussion of this and also the Wafer Technology. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 and the members got back to the Swap Meet action.

FROM THE
EDITOR'S DESK

It seems that my word processor just does not run out of topics for this column as so much has happened and is happening. Bill Jones' note in another column mentions a Z88 user group formation. As soon as a interesting and useful computer hits the market it seems that a user group is the way to go to learn this new subject. We can expect to see more articles on Z88 as well as programs showing how to make it do its stuff.

I have started to use the Beta Basic software program from England. This is a Spectrum type program. Some of the commands are simular to the QL conputer and other computers. There will be a demonstration program in use at the computer fair, courtesy

of Robert Hartung, a strong advocate of Beta Basic. This is not small auto running program as the print-out on the 2040 printer measures 13 ft.! The Beta Basic program as loaded into RAM takes up about 18K of memory. There are about 100 commands and functons listed in

the manual. I noticed right off that that stuttering back stepping cursor in the Edit mode skips right over the colons--nice.

Our user group Lynn Stransky has started his own software business encompassing data processing, consulting and programming. We wish him success on his new venture. The business name is AXS SYSTEMS and he can be contacted at 503-626-7678.

It looks like the usual cycle of the start of the fiscal year as we are only a little better than 50 % of our last year sign up. Granted, not more than 15-20 members attended meetings. We do have a hard core of members signed up again. I had hoped that the computer fair activity would induce some to stick with us.

Our March meeting included for the firt time a swap meet. There were about 6 tables displaying various interesting products. It seems that others had as much trouble as I did in selecting my valuable merchandise to sell. Maybe we can induce some of our past members to add to the swap table at the fair as a means of disposing of unused Timex and other hardware and software.

PRINTER ZERO
Dick F. Wagner

Some large printers do not provide a "Ø" for zero but it is handy to have at times. The regular zero is usually slightly different in shape than a "O". The Panasonic 1080i printer lacks this feature but it is easily added and some other Epson compatables should be just as easy to change. One printer design requirement is access to the printer RAM.

Access to the RAM is by ESC+y+D where ESC is LPRINT 27, y is LPRINT 121, and D is the character code location. Select the location for the same as zero or character code 48. Thus every time the zero key is pressed the printer produces the desired slashed character.

The program I save on disc is this:

```
10 LPRINT CHR$ 27; CHR$ 121; CHR$ 48;
20 FOR N = 1 TO 9
30 READ a
40 LPRINT CH$ a;
50 NEXT N
60       DATA       58,68,0,
138,16,162,0,68,184
70 REM RUN and "Ø" is now stored in
the printer RAM until the printer
power is off or the direct command
LPRINT CHR$ 27; CHR$ 122; CHR$ 48
will cancel it.
80 REM computer power off or DELETE
or NEW will clear the program which
remains in the printer RAM.
```

The user will find this approach much easier to use than using the socalled European codes because the zero key can be used in place of the appropriate sustitute character code. Also the user can alter the shape if desired.

For those readers who have not tried printer graphics, contrary to the computer graphic UDGs, the character is generated from left to right with the bottom print pixel or hammer being 1 and the top hammer being 128. However the pins are numbered from the top down. The top pin #1 is 128 in 8-bit mode but the top pin is not used in 7-bit mode. Confusing?

The DATA uses pins as follows:
```
 58=3,4,5,8
 68=2,6
  Ø=Ø
138=1,5,7
 16=4
162=1,3,7
  Ø=Ø
 68=2,6
184=1,3,4,5
```

COMBINATION

by: James Edwards

```
10 MODE 4:WINDOW 512,256,0,0:PAPER 0
:INK 7:CLS
15 WINDOW 420,200,40,26:PAPER 0:INK
7:BORDER 1,7:CLS
20 CSIZE 2,1:PRINT TO 12;"COMBINATIO
N":CSIZE 1,0
```

```
25 PRINT "          Combination was wri
tten for the TS-2068 by      Vladimir
 and Aleksandar Bulovic. With some m
inor      changes it now works on our
QL. Plus you can play    aganist the
computer.  Note:  The computer is no
t   that good but will give you good
 practice."
30 PRINT"          The playing board c
onsists of 64 boxes. The      goal of t
he game is to get four boxes in a li
ne      filled with your colored circ
le.  You can win in     any direction
: diagonal, horizontal or vertical.
"
40 PRINT"          To choose the colum
n you wish play in just      PRESS key
 1 to 8."
50 PRINT\\:CSIZE 2,1:PRINT TO 7;"PRE
SS ANY KEY TO PLAY"
60 PAUSE
80 MODE 8:WINDOW 512,256,0,0:PAPER 0
:INK 7:CLS
85 GO TO 200
90 DEFine PROCedure BOARD
95 title
100 INK 7:FOR a=46.9 TO 115 STEP 7.8
5
110 LINE a,26 TO a,89
130 END FOR a
140 FOR a=26 TO 95 STEP 7.85
150 LINE 47,a TO 109.6,a
160 END FOR a
170 END DEFine
200 name
210 b=INT(RND(1 TO 2)):b=b*2:d1=1:d2
=8
300 PAPER 0:INK 7:CLS:BOARD
310 DIM s(34,34)
350 CURSOR 200,200:INK 7:PRINT"1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8"
360 DIM c(8)
370 FOR x=1 TO 8:c(x)=17
380 IF b=6 THEN b=2:END IF
390 FOR f=1 TO 9
400 PAPER b:INK 0:AT f+8,0:PRINT"
       "
410 END FOR f
430 AT 11,5-LEN (a$(b/2))/2:PRINT;
a$(b/2)
450 CSIZE 2,0:AT 13,0:PRINT TO 6;"
IS":CSIZE 3,0
460 AT 15,0:PRINT "  PLAYING"
480 PAPER 0
500 FOR x=1 TO 8
510 IF c(x) <=1 THEN
520 END FOR x
530 GO TO 2000
540 ELSE :END IF
545 IF cpu=1 AND b=4 THEN
547 d= RND(d1,d2):PAUSE 30:GO TO 5
70
548 ELSE :END IF
550 ch=CODE(INKEY$(-1))
560 IF ch >48 AND ch < 57 THEN
565 d=ch-48
566 ELSE
567 GO TO 545:END IF
570 IF c(d)>2 THEN
575 g=25-c(d)
590 INK b:FILL 1:CIRCLE (d*2+10)*7
.82/2+4,g*7.83/2-1.6,3.5:FILL 0
595 x1=c(d):y1=d*2+10:s(x1,y1)=b
600 GO TO 1000
610 ELSE
620 GO TO 545
650 END IF
1000 e=48+b
1010 IF cpu=1 AND b=2 THEN
1020 d1=d-1:IF d = 1 THEN d1=1:END
 IF
1030 d2=d+1:IF d = 8 THEN d2=8:END
 IF
1040 ELSE :END IF
1190 b=b+2
1200 RESTORE 1210
1210 DATA 0,1,1,0,1,1,-1,1
1220 FOR z=1 TO 4
1230 READ o1,o2
1240 FOR y=0 TO 3
1250 FOR x=0 TO 3
1260 n=x*-2+2*y: IF n=0 THEN
1270 NEXT x
1280 GO TO 1500
1290 ELSE :END IF
1300 x1=c(d)+n*o1:y1=d*2+10+n*o2
1305 IF x1<1 OR y1<1 THEN
1310 GO TO 1340
1312 ELSE :END IF
1315 IF s(x1,y1)=b-2 THEN
1320 NEXT x
1330 GO TO 1500
1335 ELSE :END IF
1340 NEXT y
```

MSCRIPT + PROFILE
Dick Wagner

The Jan-Feb 88 issue of SyncWare News has a letter from Paul Holmgren about loading a ProFile file into the MSCRIPT word processor. I don't get all of his suggestions to work but at least this loading can be done. This looked interesting for an idea I have had for printing (on a large printer) the names and addresses of the CCAT/S members on a single page **in 2 column format and with last names in alphabetical order. Also it**

would be necessary to be able to make corrections, revisions, and additions without destroying this order. ProFile will not easily meet some of these requirements. Using version 3, 4, or 5 can accomplish some of these goals.

Automatic printing of a block of text is permitted by MSCRIPT plus it has text formatting, search, and text block moving. One disadvantage is that the cursor can be moved only to the top and end of the text by single key press. Other cursor movement is by use of the arrow keys which isn't so bad for short text but several hundred lines! The reason for this comment is that a file is physically moved to a cursor position so it takes a lot of cursor moving to order files. A solution to this problem is presented later.

Using MSCRIPT V 5, I found that a ProFile file will indeed load into it as a file by using the LOAD command (file name must be used). The screen display at first was quite a surprise because each file line, including "*" and date were included. Whenever an asterisk was shown the next file came immediately after it if there was space left on the line for a word. My first reaction was to place an end-of-line marker after each asterisk but this was not necessary as I found out. Also windowing does not extend the lines but it will compress the lines if desired.

Perhaps an explanation of my final (to date) method will explain a practical application. As the cursor can be moved to the top of file with a key press I elected to move the name files to the top of file position, last file being moved first. In this case WYNCOOP file was searched for, a marker was set after the asterisk of the previous file and a marker was set after the asterisk of this file. The cursor was then moved to the top of file. The move key was used to move the file, then the delete key was used to delete the old file, followed by a marker remove key. Now it was

necessary to insert end-of-line markers because the lines were usually less than 32 characters and a print-out will spill lines without the markers even tho it doesn't show this way on the screen. In this manner each name was searched for in order and moved. An empty line was added between each name file for printing separation.

After this system was tested for block print, I tried moving a name file at column 40 opposite a current file so 2 columns could be printed. I found that empty character spaces were required to move the cursor to this column- a lot of key pushing. A name file was selected amd move markers were set. The move key was pressed and the file was moved but only the first line was in position, the remaining lines were moved to the left column. I guess the end of line markers were automatically moved to column 1.

The printing procedure was to set block printing markers for the first set of files for the left column. Before doing this I marked the top of paper position for reference so I could return the paper exactly to this position. A line length of 32 was used and the appropriate page length put in. The left column was printed with a margin of 5 to allow for punching holes if desired. Then the markers were removed, the paper returned to the beginning mark, margin was set for 45, line length was kept at 32 and page spacing was left to move the paper to the next page position.

Multiple page printing could be accomplished with the printing of the required number of left columns first and then separating the printed sheets plus 1 from the stack and feeding the first page into the printer again, stopping at the mark. Then the second column sequence could be started as above. The essential requirement is to be sure that form feed is working properly.

An alternate method for printing the second column would be to use the printer left margin code but MSCRIPT has an easy margin setting that can be toggled.

BITS & BYTES
by: ROD GOWEN

Heard any TS related news lately? Did you get any information in the mail from other users, user groups, or vendors that may be of interest to our readers? If so, why not share it with us? We need all of the help that we can get. Please send any info that you might have to: Rod Gowen, C/O CCAT/S, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, or, phone in at: 503/655-7484, 10 AM- 10 PM weekdays. I know that the entire user group will appreciate it!

THE SWAP MEET-was a great success!! We had more attending this meeting than at any meeting in my recent memory. Maybe we should have a swap meet more often!

LEMKE SOFTWARE-has just released a new disk-based desk top publishers for use with the 2068 and the Aerco FD-68. It is called PIXEL PRINT PROFESSIONAL. It makes use of the extra memory on the FD-68 board to allow the printing of both columns at once! It stores one column in the bank switched memory and one in the computer ram and as it is printing, switches back and forth between the two. A VERY nice package! At $29.95, it is the same price as PIXEL PRINT PLUS, the newest version of his now famous PIXEL PRINT DESK TOP PUBLISHER. The Professional will be available only through Lemke Software Developement and RMG Enter-prises.

BYTE POWER 1ST CLASS MAGAZINE-the magazine on cassette for the 2068, is now offering several packages of software for sale through your favorite TS dealer. RMG will be one of those dealers who will be carry-ing the complete line of Byte-Power products. Of SPECIAL interest is the D.U.S. package. This is a Disk Utility System for the Larken LKDOS sysem. It includes 20 or more great utilities for all Larken users.

If you are one, you cannot afford to be without this package! If you accidentally ERASE a file on your disk, you can now recover it! If the directory becomes corrupted, you can now recover and reconstruct it! You can recover files from a disk that is not salvagable. These are just a few of the many utilities on this disk. Other products include: The Best of Byte-Power #1, #2 and #3 as well as special paks of any 6 of the past issues of the magazine on disk or cassette.

KNIGHTED COMPUTER-is updating their mailing list and if you want to continue to receive mailers from them, you had better let them know or you will be dropped!

THE RMG BBS-is still there! You really ought to stop by and look in on what is going on on your local TS BBS! It is going to stay up until the MINI-FAIR in August but may not be around long after that if usage does not improve a LOT! Not a threat, just the facts. It is a LOT of work and some expense to keep a BBS running. Too much for 8 or 10 regular callers. Let's support what you get for FREE!

E. ARTHUR BROWN-has thrown in the towel on TS. We lose another one! I spoke to Eben and he said that the sales had been on a steady decline over the past 10-18 months and had gotten to the point where it no longer even paid to devote 1 page in his catalog/flyer to our products. We MUST give our hard working TS dealers MORE support if we want to keep them!

LARKEN-has finally released the long awaited RAMDISK board for the 2068. It is a non-volatile board that will expand up to 256K of RAM that will be used exactly as you would a disk drive. With 4 chips it will have 128K of RAM, with 4 more piggy-backed on the first 4, you will have 256K. To FORMAT, you simply tell the DOS, using the FORMAT command on the keyboard, how many chips you have on board and it will FORMAT to that amount. For instance, if you have the 4 chips (128K), you would use the LKDOS command: RANDOMIZE USR

100: FORMAT "4",. That would be it! Can't get much simpler than that! It is available from LARKEN and from RMG Enterprises at comparable prices. Check with them.

That's all for this time!

Later.....RLG

LARKEN LINES
by: ROD GOWEN

7 in a row? No I am sorry, but, due to the pressures of work and the fast increasing duties as producer of the August Mini-Fair, leave me little or no time for writing. I am doing good just to get this notice written along with my normal Bits & Bytes column. I will turn my Larken Line space over to James Edwards this month for a QL column. I hope that you enjoy it.

See you next time!

RLG

NEW PRODUCT
ANNOUNCEMENT

QZX--The Journal Covering Amateur Radio & Sinclair Computers ZX-80, Micro-Ace, ZX81, T/S 1000, 1500, & 2068

2025 O'Donnell Drive
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001

K5XY	W4GHV/5
Alex. F. Burr	Bo Barry
Publisher	Editor

QZX, a national Sinclair computer newsletter, has just published a 60 page index book.

QZX publishes articles, news, and programs on the use of all the Sinclair computers for communications. Most of the subscribers, who come from all states (and over 20 countries, are radio amateurs who use Sinclair computers in their radio stations.

The index book is a bound zerox copy of all the covers of all the monthly issues since December 1982. The covers list all the articles and programs which have appeared along with the authors and, in most cases, some indication of the specific computer for which the program was written. The index book can be obtained by sending $5.00 (plus $1.00 shipping and handling) to:

QZX
2025 O'Donnell
Las Cruces, NM 88001

LIBRARY NOTES

The front page shows our new libriarian, Syd Wyncoop. James Edwards, who has done a good job for CCAT/S in reorganizing our library and developing an index, has abandoned Timex/Sinclair computers for a PC. Syd is in process of indexing the latest series of newsletters onto a disk file. This file is available to members who are using ProFile 2068, original or later versions. This is really an extensive file of much of our library material. Have you checked it out yet?

TRY THIS PROGRAM!
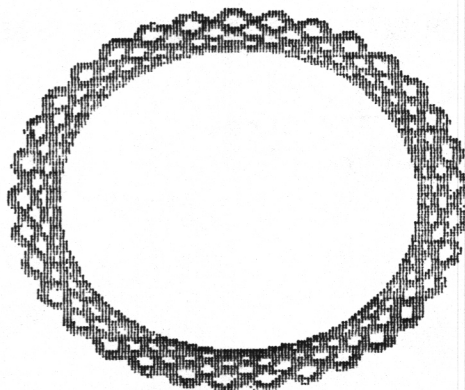
A=70003.75

0 OK, 20:1

```
 5 LET A=70003.75
10 PLOT 68,28: DRAW 100,100,A
20 PRINT AT 21,1;"A=70003.75"
```

CORRESPONDENCE

The following was recently received from THE PLOTTER subscriber Bill Jones dba Gulf Electronics, Editor of TS-2068 Up-Date magazine. Bill has been informed of our Computer Fair and we hope he can provide display material for his magazine.

"Dear Dick:

Back from the Orlando Computer Fest. Great activity in the TS-2068 and QL areas. Attendance about PAR- But what do you expect at $90 per day lodging? About 5-8000 new QL users since last year and a HUGE new Z88 user group about to hatch. TS-Sinclair user groups actually expanding! Biggest news is the enthusiasm to start a "North American Timex Sinclair Association". For now Eric and Mary Lynn Johnson, 249 N. Harden Ave., Orange City, FL 32763 are the coordinators. Eric's BBS for info and coord is to be on line 904-775-0093. More about it in both UP-DATE and TDM next issue.

Best regards to you and The Group--

Signed--Bill Jones"

SEE T-S HORIZONS #9 FOR SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF DISPLAYS
SOME ADJUSTMENT WILL BE RE-QUIRED FOR THE SECOND PLOT NUMBER
NOT ALL LARGE NUMBERS WILL WORK FOR (A)
TRY THESE NUMBERS: 4099, 4106, 4109, 4112, 4125, 4156, 4162, 4181, 3936.4, 3936.6, 3936.9, 3937, 3937.05, 3937.1, 3937.2, 3937.6, 20002.5, 20003, 30000, 40002, 40003.1, 70003.75, 5999999

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